

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Fard

Confirmation No. 5115

Serial No. 10/803,189

Group Art Unit 3733

Filed March 18, 2004

Examiner San Miguel

For BONE MILL AND TEMPLATE

Commissioner for Patents

PO Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 4, 2007, the applicant elects the Group 1 invention which includes claims 1-13 and 67-77. The election is made with partial traverse with respect to the Group 2 invention (claims 14-60 and 86-104). As has been recognized by the Examiner, claim 1 is drawn to a single template whereas claim 14 is drawn to a kit for knee replacement surgery. Each of the features for the template of claim 1 are recited for the individual tibial frames in the kit of claim 14; thus, searching for the features of claim 14 (group 2) simultaneously while searching for the features of claim 1 (group 1) would not place an undue burden on the Examiner. Furthermore, claim 14 (group 2) would be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1 (group 2); therefore, even if group 2 is considered separate from group 1, the claims of group 2 should be rejoined with the claims of group 1 upon allowance of the claims in group 1.

As the applicant has elected the group 1 invention, in response to the election of species requirement, the applicant elects species 2 (Figures 5a-b). This election is made with traverse. The chief difference between Figures 2a-b and 5a-b is the presence of a bent tab 330. The chief difference between Figures 5a-b and 5a-c is the configuration of the bent tab 330. The claims which read on the elected species include 1-13 and 67-77 (all the claims in the elected invention). Claim 69 specifies a pre-bent hook and would appear to include the tack 332 shown in Figures 5a-b and the prongs 330 in Figure 5c. The species shown in Figures 5d

and 5e possibly do not show a pre-bent hook; however, these species meet the requirements of every other claim in the elected invention.

In view of the above, please proceed to examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael E. Whitham

Reg. No. 32,635

Whitham, Curtis, Christofferson & Cook, P.C.  
11491 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 340  
Reston, VA 20190

Tel. (703) 787-9400  
Fax. (703) 787-7557

Customer No.: 30743